(b) and (c) Detailed designing of the cable stayed bridge module for the difficult foundation area on South side has been taken up.

Broad Gauge Rail line to Guwahati

144. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Broad Gauge rail line constructed upto Guwahati is not strong enough to withstand the super-fast trains, running beyond 75 km. per hour;

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to upgrade the strength of this Broad Gauge line to make it suitable for super fast trains; and

(c) if so, what are the details there of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir, except in certain stretches.

(b) and (c) Ballast cushion is being increased for raising the speed in those stretches.

Mal-practices in rail reservation at Delhi

145. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that in spite of computerisation of advance railway reservations at Delhi, mal-practices go unabated and reservation for long distance stations are made in fictitious names and then tickets sold to actual travellers at a premium by well established groups running travel agencies in the capital; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to check this and provide better service to genuine passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The malpractices have come down appreciably after computerisation of reservations.

(b) The following steps have been taken:—

(i) A close surveillance on Reservation offices is being maintained to detect and apprehend touts. During the period 1-11-86 to 6-4-87, 69 touts were apprehended and prosecuted in Delhi area.

(ii) Checks are conducted in running trains to detect cases of transferred reservations.

(iii) In some cases, where telephone numbers are mentioned in the requisition slip, phone calls are made to find out whether the reservation made is genuine. In cases of doubt, the reservation is cancelled.

(iv) Railway staff are also sent to visit the address given in the requisition slip and reservation cancelled if particulars are found fictitious. During checks made recently, 6 such reservations with false addresses were cancelled.

(v) Frequent warnings to intending passengers against unauthorised purchase/sale of tickets are being issued through notices and announcements over the public announcement system; and

(vi) Strict supervision is maintained over reservation staff and those found indulging in irregularities are taken up departmentally

Sports grant to Punjab University

146. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what was the amount of grant released by Government through UGC or otherwise to the Punjab University for promotion of sports during each of the last three years; and